



Mark Chapter 7 Are All Foods Clean?

This past week in our Wednesday night Bible study we took a look at Acts chapter 10, and we talked about the Apostle Peter and the dream that he had about the sheet that he saw lowered down from Heaven full of all kinds of animals.. and we spoke about the meaning of Peters dream according to Peter and his brothers in Judea.

So because we've taken the time to study that scripture and to read the whole chapter for ourselves we now know that no where in Acts chapter 10 does God the Father, or Yahshua the Son, ever proclaim that all animals are good for food.. even though this is often taught in many of today's modern day Christian denominational churches.

After studying that chapter it's more than clear that no one ever over road the commandment of God the Father in the book of Leviticus concerning our Fathers dietary laws.

There simply is no commandment found anywhere in any of the 66 books of the Bible that tell us that Gods Levitical dietary laws were ever done away with or erased. In fact.. the scriptures clearly tell us quite the opposite.. if we would only take the time to actually sit down and study the scriptures for ourselves.

Knowing these things before hand, it's important for us as students of the Gospel, who are working towards the work of the ministry of our Father to be clear.. Just like the 1st day of the week “Sunday Sabbath” or “Good Friday” or any any other man made, man created, man fabricated lies that men perpetuate.. There is no commandment found by any Priest, or Apostle, or Prophet that tells us that all animals are now considered food in the eyes of God our Father in Heaven.

No where will you find it said that all animals are now considered clean food for man to eat. No where was such a thing ever commanded by anyone including our Messiah or his Father.

Not one Priest, not one Prophet, not one Apostle, not our Messiah and certainly not his Father ever told anyone in the 66 books of the Bible that all animals were okay to eat as food.

It's not in there, and you can't find it, and the reason you can't find it.. is because it's not in there.

The only possible way that anyone could ever say that all animals of the earth are good for food

according to our Father in Heaven is to blatantly, and willfully lie.

Once again my friends lets be clear. If no one commanded it, and if it's not found anywhere in the scripture... and if it's not directly proclaimed from our Father or his Son.. then we as Christians are commanded to reject it as a lie.

1Jn 2:4 Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

And the very idea that all animals are considered food by our Father or his Son is nothing more than a man made, man created, man fabricated assumption.

So in order to combat the deception that is perpetrated though out the denominational charters of today's modern day version of Christianity concerning mans self proclaimed ability to consume pigs and horses and crustations.. we must make an effort to give an account for what we believe and why we believe it.

If you believe that God allows you to eat pigs, rabbits, horses, lobsters, and shell fish.. then you should be able to point to the scripture that commands such a thing.. and you should be able to point to the Priest, Prophet, or Apostle that changed our Fathers original dietary laws, and commandments shouldn't you?

1Pe 3:14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,

1Pe 3:15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

1Pe 3:16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

1Pe 3:17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

So we are commanded to always be able to make a defense to anyone who asks us for a reason for the hope that is in us. We are also told to “contend earnestly for the faith” in Jude 1 verse 3:

Jud 1:3 Dear friends, I was busily at work writing to you about the salvation we share, when I found it necessary to write, urging you to keep contending earnestly for the faith which was once and for all passed on to God's people.

And we're also told to rebuke sharply those who devote themselves to Jewish myths and the commandments of men:

Tit 1:13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,

Tit 1:14 not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth.

Tit 1:15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.

Tit 1:16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

But before we can contend for the faith, or give an account for what we believe.. we need to first pray, read, and study to show ourselves approved rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

So today I thought it best to take a look at another well known candy stick scripture that many people wrongly regurgitate in order to try and prove that God has told them that all animals are considered food in the eyes of our Father.

Lets first take a look at our Fathers dietary commandments that he gave us in the book of Leviticus chapter 11:

Lev 11:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying to them,

Lev 11:2 "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, These are the living things that you may eat among all the animals that are on the earth.

Lev 11:3 Whatever parts the hoof and is cloven-footed and chews the cud, among the animals, you may eat.

Lev 11:4 Nevertheless, among those that chew the cud or part the hoof, you shall not eat these: The camel, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you.

Lev 11:5 And the rock badger, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you.

Lev 11:6 And the hare, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you.

Lev 11:7 And the pig, because it parts the hoof and is cloven-footed but does not chew the cud, is unclean to you.

Lev 11:8 You shall not eat any of their flesh, and you shall not touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you.

Lev 11:9 "These you may eat, of all that are in the waters. Everything in the waters that has fins and scales, whether in the seas or in the rivers, you may eat.

Lev 11:10 But anything in the seas or the rivers that does not have fins and scales, of the swarming creatures in the waters and of the living creatures that are in the waters, is detestable to you.

Lev 11:11 You shall regard them as detestable; you shall not eat any of their flesh, and you

shall detest their carcasses.

Lev 11:12 Everything in the waters that does not have fins and scales is detestable to you.

Lev 11:13 "And these you shall detest among the birds; they shall not be eaten; they are detestable: the eagle, the bearded vulture, the black vulture,

Lev 11:14 the kite, the falcon of any kind,

Lev 11:15 every raven of any kind,

Lev 11:16 the ostrich, the nighthawk, the sea gull, the hawk of any kind,

Lev 11:17 the little owl, the cormorant, the short-eared owl,

Lev 11:18 the barn owl, the tawny owl, the carrion vulture,

Lev 11:19 the stork, the heron of any kind, the hoopoe, and the bat.

Lev 11:20 "All winged insects that go on all fours are detestable to you.

Lev 11:21 Yet among the winged insects that go on all fours you may eat those that have jointed legs above their feet, with which to hop on the ground.

Lev 11:22 Of them you may eat: the locust of any kind, the bald locust of any kind, the cricket of any kind, and the grasshopper of any kind.

Lev 11:23 But all other winged insects that have four feet are detestable to you.

Lev 11:24 "And by these you shall become unclean. Whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening,

Lev 11:25 and whoever carries any part of their carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.

Lev 11:26 Every animal that parts the hoof but is not cloven-footed or does not chew the cud is unclean to you. Everyone who touches them shall be unclean.

Lev 11:27 And all that walk on their paws, among the animals that go on all fours, are unclean to you. Whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening,

Lev 11:28 and he who carries their carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening; they are unclean to you.

Lev 11:29 "And these are unclean to you among the swarming things that swarm on the ground: the mole rat, the mouse, the great lizard of any kind,

Lev 11:30 the gecko, the monitor lizard, the lizard, the sand lizard, and the chameleon.

Lev 11:31 These are unclean to you among all that swarm. Whoever touches them when they are dead shall be unclean until the evening.

Lev 11:32 And anything on which any of them falls when they are dead shall be unclean, whether it is an article of wood or a garment or a skin or a sack, any article that is used for any purpose. It must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the evening; then it shall be clean.

Lev 11:33 And if any of them falls into any earthenware vessel, all that is in it shall be unclean, and you shall break it.

Lev 11:34 Any food in it that could be eaten, on which water comes, shall be unclean. And all drink that could be drunk from every such vessel shall be unclean.

Lev 11:35 And everything on which any part of their carcass falls shall be unclean. Whether oven or stove, it shall be broken in pieces. They are unclean and shall remain unclean for you.

Lev 11:36 Nevertheless, a spring or a cistern holding water shall be clean, but whoever

touches a carcass in them shall be unclean.

Lev 11:37 And if any part of their carcass falls upon any seed grain that is to be sown, it is clean,

Lev 11:38 but if water is put on the seed and any part of their carcass falls on it, it is unclean to you.

Lev 11:39 "And if any animal which you may eat dies, whoever touches its carcass shall be unclean until the evening,

Lev 11:40 and whoever eats of its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening. And whoever carries the carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.

Lev 11:41 "Every swarming thing that swarms on the ground is detestable; it shall not be eaten.

Lev 11:42 Whatever goes on its belly, and whatever goes on all fours, or whatever has many feet, any swarming thing that swarms on the ground, you shall not eat, for they are detestable.

Lev 11:43 You shall not make yourselves detestable with any swarming thing that swarms, and you shall not defile yourselves with them, and become unclean through them.

Lev 11:44 For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming thing that crawls on the ground.

Lev 11:45 For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."

Lev 11:46 This is the law about beast and bird and every living creature that moves through the waters and every creature that swarms on the ground,

Lev 11:47 to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean and between the living creature that may be eaten and the living creature that may not be eaten.

So according to God our Father in his written scriptures, we can now know what animals fall under the category of "food" and which ones do not.

Now with that knowledge under our belts.. it should be more than clear to us that Yahshua Jesus did not come to abolish even the crossing of a "T" or the dotting of an "i" of his Fathers law, and he very clearly states that in Matthew 5:17.

However many will try to wrongly proclaim that Yahshua Jesus "fulfilled" Gods laws so we don't have to be bothered with them.. but once again my friends... that's not found in the scripture anywhere.

That man made, man created, man fabricated doctrine is just that.. man made, man created, and man fabricated.

Many will try to tell us that the Apostle Paul said that all of Gods laws are nailed to the cross, and that we don't have to be bothered with Gods laws anymore because we're "once saved always saved!".

But once again my friends this is contrary to everything that the Apostle Paul ever taught or preached.

Rom 8:6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Rom 8:7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

We are very well studied concerning the writings of the Apostle Paul and what he came to teach and to preach. For more information on the Apostle Paul and what he truly came to teach and preach.. you can visit us at HolyImpactMinistries.com. We've got plenty of teachings there at our website concerning the writings and teachings of the Apostle Paul.

But for the sake of those who already have a good grasp of these elementary teachings.. lets read Mark chapter 7:

Mar 7:1 Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,

Mar 7:2 they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.

Mar 7:3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders,

Mar 7:4 and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)

Mar 7:5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"

Mar 7:6 And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, "'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;

Mar 7:7 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

Mar 7:8 You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men."

Once again my friends we see our Messiah in a heated battle with the Pharisees concerning their man made, man created, man fabricated laws, and Gods laws. And I want us to take notice of the context of this chapter. What is the "context"?

The "context" or the narrative... the very meaning of this chapter so far is all about the Halakah of the Pharisees. The man made, man created, man fabricated laws, commandments, traditions, and rituals of the Pharisees that are clearly not found in Gods Torah anywhere.

And this is our Messiah's point. Our Messiah is calling them out for breaking Gods commanded law found in Deuteronomy 4:2 and Deuteronomy 12:32, where we are all clearly commanded to

be careful to obey his commandments and not to add too.. or take away from.. his Word.

Lets continue:

Mar 7:9 And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!"

Mar 7:10 For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.'

Mar 7:11 But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is, given to God)—

Mar 7:12 then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother,

Mar 7:13 thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."

Mar 7:14 And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand:

Mar 7:15 There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him."

So lets stop right here for just a moment and lets recap what our Messiah has just said to these Pharisees. What was this all about in the first place?

It was about the law or the Halakah of the Pharisees that commanded people to wash their hands before eating was it not?

Lets re-visit the first 5 verses once again to refresh our memories:

Mar 7:1 Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,

Mar 7:2 they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.

Mar 7:3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders,

Mar 7:4 and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)

Mar 7:5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"

So this is all about the washing of hands so that your hands are not dirty correct? I think we can all agree on this so far. Is this about food? No it is not.

Is “food” mentioned anywhere in these verses? No it is not.

Are animals mentioned anywhere in these verses? No they are not.

It's about washing your dirty hands before you eat because the Pharisees believed that eating with dirty hands defiled a person, and defiled the food that they were eating. This is the very context of this chapter is it not? Can we agree so far on what the context is.. and what the meaning of these scriptures are all about?

It's not about food, it's not about clean or unclean animals, it's not about doing away with Gods commanded dietary laws it's about eating with dirty hands. Lets be clear. To say that these verses have anything or say anything about all animals now becoming food for man is simply not true.

And what does Yahshua say about them washing their hands before they eat? He tells them that this commandment is not found in the Word of God and continues on to let them know that their dirty hands can not possibly defile them.

Nothing on your dirty hands is capable of defiling you. If dirt from your hands gets into your food and you eat with dirty hands.. there's no way that this can defile you, or the food that you are eating.. so why do you insist on making void the Word of God in order to hold onto your own man made, man created, man fabricated traditions?

Yahshua was rebuking them sharply for trying to chastise his disciples for not washing their hands. And this is the point of these verses my friends.. not that all animals are now food for man to eat.

Lets continue:

Mar 7:17 And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable.

Mar 7:18 And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him,

Mar 7:19 since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.)

Okay lets stop right here for a moment. Some Bible translations have added too.. and taken away from.. Gods Word. Does that surprise you? Because it shouldn't. Notice the parenthesis around "Thus he declared all foods clean", so you see those?

Some of you may be saying "yes I see those" and others may be saying "I don't see that in my Bible". Why is that?

Because "Thus he declared all foods clean" is not found anywhere in the original manuscripts.

It was added into the Word of God by men. The earliest manuscripts do not have the words “Thus he declared all foods clean” in them. To the best of our knowledge we do not know exactly who added those words into the scripture.

Most biblical scholars believe that they came from one translator or another, but because these transcripts and Bible versions were often copied from each other we simply don't know who it was exactly that added those words into the scripture. But they are not found in the older manuscripts.

What we do know is that if we take a look at the oldest and more reliable manuscripts that were originally given.. we know that the words “Thus he declared all foods clean” is not found anywhere.

And this is why even in your King James Bible you will not find these words. You won't find them in the Geneva Bible either, or the Wycliffe Bible, for that matter. Many early Bible translations simply do not have the words “Thus he declared all foods clean” in them.

But what if Yahshua did say these Words? What if the oldest manuscripts were missing these all important words “Thus he declared all foods clean”? What if the oldest manuscripts are wrong?

Either way my friends.. it makes no difference.

We modern day Christians must understand that food to a Hebrew Jew did not include pigs, horses, rabbits, lobster, shrimp, or shell fish. The very word “Food” is predicated on what God our Father says is “food”.. not what our society today says is “food”.

You see today when someone says “lets go to the Red Lobster for dinner tonight and eat” no one even bats an eye at such a statement. But if you were to say to a Hebrew Jew, “lets go eat lobster for dinner tonight” he would think you were a crazy heretic. Why?

Because a Hebrew Jew knows that “lobster” is not food. You might as well have said “lets go eat the trash can”.

There fore.. if Yahshua did say “Thus I declare all foods clean” he would have simply meant that your washing your hands does not make the food clean. Washing your hands has nothing to do with whether or not the food is clean or not. Only God can make food clean or unclean.

Mans laws, and mans commandments can not make what is clean, unclean, or vise versa. Only God can say what is clean and what is unclean.

So how do we know that we are correct in our understanding concerning this chapter? How do we know that Yahshua was not saying that all animals were now food for man to eat?

Because with even the least amount of studying our Messiah.. we should already know that our Messiah did not come to preach and to teach a new doctrine, or a new word, or a new set of dietary laws, or a new Sabbath, or a new set of commandments or laws. He came to preach and teach the his Fathers doctrine, his Fathers Word, his Fathers dietary laws, his Fathers Sabbaths, his Fathers commandments and laws.. not his own.

Joh 12:48 The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day.

Joh 12:49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

Joh 5:30 "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

Joh 14:24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

Now.. let me ask you my friends.. if Yahshua Jesus were to have changed his Fathers Word and now proclaimed that all animals were food for man to eat.. do you suppose that that would require more than just the crossing of a “T” or the dotting of an “i” concerning Gods law?

I would say that that would change more than just a few crossings of a “T” or dottings of an “i” wouldn't you agree? And yet our Messiah said very clearly that he did not come to change the crossing of a “T” or the dotting of an “i” of his Fathers law:

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Mat 5:18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Mat 5:19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

So is it then even possible for Yahshua our Messiah to have changed his Fathers dietary commandment?

Not if what he said in Matthew 5:17 through 20 is true.

Our Messiah is not commanding anyone with in these scriptures to go out and eat a ham

sandwich my friends. What our Messiah is commanding us to do through the scriptures is to study to show ourselves approved rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

He is commanding us to keep what he is saying in context, and not to add too, or take away from what he has said.

Lets continue:

Mar 7:20 And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him.

Mar 7:21 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,

Mar 7:22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

Mar 7:23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

If this all sounds foreign to you, and you've never heard such things before.. we invite you to visit us at HolyImpactMinistries.com, and click on our "Holy Impact Teachings" tab and allow us to minister to you.

It's free, and it costs nothing but a small offering of your time.

And with that I'll leave you with this my friends.. from the Apostle Paul himself:

Rom 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

Rom 8:6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Rom 8:7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Rom 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

Don't set you mind on the things of the flesh. Today on our Fathers commanded, holy, sanctified, 7th day Sabbath that he said would be a sign between him and his people.. a perpetual agreement for all generations forever.. set your mind on the Ruach... the Spirit of God our Father.

And go and take these things to your prayer closet and bow your knee and face his holy promised land of Jerusalem, and ask him if the things that you have heard hear today be true.. or not true. Test these things in the fire of prayer, and then and only then.. will you be able to please God our Father.